

**The State House Again.**

We have had occasion, from time to time, to call the attention of our readers, and the tax-payers of Ohio, to the manner in which the business of our new State House is managed. We are sorry to say that matters get no better very fast. We add to-day a few items for the consideration of the people of this State.

On the 15th of November last, there were \$26,000 of the previous appropriation for the State House in the treasury. The legislature made a new appropriation of \$75,000 for the current year. This gave a fund of \$101,000. Our citizens have seen the small amount of work that has been done during the present season. It is now ascertained that the money is nearly all spent, and that there is not more than enough in the treasury to pay off the wages at the end of the present month. There are only ten stone cutters now remaining in the yard. The money having been exhausted, the balance have been discharged. But the superintendents, at three dollars per day, and all the official part of the machinery, remain employed and in full force.

The iron rafters are not yet finished, though they were to have been completed last year. Probably the copper roofing will not be laid till another year, as we learn the contract for it is not yet given out. Of course the State will be compelled to be at the expense of covering the building again with boards, &c., to protect it from the storms, this winter. This costs about three thousand dollars.

The marble tiling, we learn, has been contracted for, and ten thousand dollars have been advanced upon it. A portion of this tiling, we are told, is lying in the vaults of the State House, but it cannot be used till the roof is on, and the plastering, &c., is done. This is the sort of economy and management which have characterized the business of the State House department for some time past. Look at it for a moment. The east side of the main building is not yet finished, and it cannot be this season; because the crush is used up, and the stone masons are discharged, and, at the same time, ten thousand dollars have been advanced on a contract that cannot be begun till the stone work of the building and the plastering are finished. What man of ordinary common sense manages his private affairs in this wretched way?

The truth is, this whole business needs the sweeping, thorough hand of reform.—Every thing is at loose ends. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent, without system, and now, while hands are discharged, and the most of the work is suspended, the officers about the building remain at full salaries, with comparatively nothing to do. As tax payers and as citizens of Ohio, we have a right to grumble, and to ask why these things are managed in this way. Is it to spin out the job as long as possible, and thus retain good fat places for political favorites? Are the people to be taxed, for years, to foot that sort of bill?—[O. S. Journal.]

**A CLINCHER.**—We lately spoke of the old lady who triumphantly pointed out the "Epistle to the Romans," and asked where one could be found addressed to the Protestants? The Catholic Mirror happily retorts by telling us of a negro Baptist at the South, who said to his Methodist master: "You've read the Bible I s'pose?" "Yes." "Well, you've read in it of one John the Baptist, hasn't you?" "Yes." "Well, you never saw nothing about no John the Baptist, did you?" "No." "Well, den you see dere's Baptist in de Bible, but dere ain't no Methodist; and de Bible is on my side."—We leave our good brethren of these sects to settle this knotty point among themselves. —[Banner of the Cross.]

**TIMELY INFORMATION.**—A paragraph in the Rochester Democrat, says, on the authority of Capt. Sam. Drake, that the juice of the lemon, if rubbed over the hands and face, will entirely protect them against the bites of mosquitoes. The Capt. says he has proved this positively true, on a fishing jaunt of three days.

**COMMODORE STEWART.**—In looking over the list of retired officers in the House naval bill, we find the name of this gallant veteran officer, now at the head of Captains. It is good to recount the brave deeds of this son of the sea. As long ago as the years 1798-9 we find him commanding an armed vessel of this government, and he has ever borne the character of being dauntlessly brave, and a most skillful seaman. It was he who commanded the Constitution during the last war, when she encountered the English frigate *Levant* and the heavy sloop-of-war *Cyane*, and after a long, tough and spirited engagement, she captured them both. The Commodore acquired great renown in this engagement; the crew evinced also the greatest courage and consummate skill in the management of the vessel. The *Cyane* first struck her colors, and the *Levant*, after exhibiting great boldness, submitted to the heavy broadsides poured into her by "Old Ironsides."

The Commodore is an old man, and after such gallant services, it seems hard that he should be laid aside as useless lumber, and his pay reduced in extreme age. By reference to the Register, we find that he entered the navy on the 9th March, 1798, has served on sea twenty-two years and eleven months; on shore thirteen years and two months, and has been unemployed for nineteen years and nine months, and was last at sea in November, 1843, and at present is commanding the navy yard at Philadelphia. Fifty-six years of his life has been devoted to his country; and a faithful performance of duty has ever characterized him. He exalted the American flag to a high stand in the engagement mentioned above. Why not make him Admiral? Charles Stewart's name should long be remembered.—[Norfolk Argus.]

**MILLIONS FOR WAR, NOT ONE CENT FOR COMMERCE.**—In publishing the brief message of President Pierce, to be found in another column, vetoing the River and Harbor bill passed by decided majorities in both branches of Congress, the New York Courier pointedly remarks:—"He is compelled to refuse his consent upon constitutional grounds and from conscientious scruples. He can ask ten millions of dollars for the purpose of embroiling the country with Spain, he can commit an act of open war without even the advice and consent of the body which has the only constitutional power to declare war, he can give his consent to the enormous appropriation for the purchase of barren acres, fit for nothing but to fight Indians on; but to give the nation's money for the encouragement and increased facility of the commerce of the nation is alike against his inclinations and constitutional views.—He promises a longer message in the winter session. Let him head it—Millions for War, but not one cent for Commerce!"

The London Times winds up a long article on the destruction of Greytown, in the following strain:

The press of America, like that of England—we are proud to say, gives a far higher tone to the moral and political history of the times than is to be found in the acts of her statesmen, or in the daily proceedings of her legislature; and the burst of indignation which the destruction of San Juan has drawn from the American press is a guarantee to the rest of the world, that whatever folly or wickedness its government may commit, the press is prepared to denounce it in the name of the American people, and to hold it up to the ridicule of the whole world. We may, therefore, safely leave Mr. Pierce and his two last great acts of diplomacy and good government, in the hands of those who will deal with them as they richly merit.

The Greytown affair was largely instrumental in the defeat of the ten million appropriation for the acquisition of Cuba. Information of that shocking and wanton outrage arrived just in time to demonstrate the use the administration was likely to make of all opportunities and means of mischief, and with all its devotion to the Executive, and its two-thirds democratic majority, the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs was compelled to withdraw its consent to the project.—[N. Y. Courier.]

**Adjournment of Congress.**

The formal adjournment of congress takes place to-day at 12 o'clock, but the actual cessation of business occurred at 4 o'clock on Friday last, and before night most of the members were on their way home.

The message of the president, with his veto of the harbor and river bill, was received by the house at noon on Friday, but so many members had left town that a quorum could not be mustered, and hence no action was taken upon it. Of course the bill could not have been passed over the president's head, and therefore nothing could have been gained by any action.

The most important bills which have been passed are as follows:

- The regular appropriation bills;
- The Kansas and Nebraska bill;
- The bill providing for six first-class war steamers;
- The ten million bill of the Gadsden treaty;
- The land graduation bill;
- The bill extending the warehousing system;
- The bill to give effect to the Canadian reciprocity treaty;

The Minnesota land bill, in which was perpetrated the innocent fraud by the clerk Forney, was, on the discovery of the alteration, repealed.

The senate has also perfected a number of treaties, among which are the following:

- The Gadsden treaty;
- The British colonial reciprocity treaty;
- The commercial treaty with Japan;
- The neutrality treaty with Russia.

The amount of money appropriated by the present congress is over seventy millions of dollars, mainly for gunpowder. Had Pierce succeeded in getting the ten millions he asked for, with which to get up a fight with Spain, there is no telling but he and his cabinet would have gone off in a halo of smoke before the next session—and the country with them.

So far as the upper lake country is concerned, it has little to be thankful for. Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, Toledo, Sandusky and Buffalo, have appropriations for custom houses, and at those points among the above where the United States courts are held, larger sums are appropriated so as to include rooms for holding these courts.—[Cleveland Herald, Aug. 7th.]

**MURDER.**—Joseph Beard, a young man living near Xenia, was shot dead on Tuesday by Frederick Robinson. Beard had just married a young lady to whom Robinson had been paying his addresses, and was returning with her in a buggy to her father's when Robinson met them. Beard apprehending mischief drove on rapidly, and Robinson fired without hitting him. Beard then jumped out of his buggy, when Robinson fired again and shot him dead. His wife rushed frantically at the assassin, when he sprang into the buggy and drove off at a rapid rate. He had not been arrested, at the last reports.

**CAMPOR PRODUCING INSANITY.**—The Toronto Colonist says:

"We are informed that no less than eight persons have been admitted into the Lunatic Asylum in a state of insanity, occasioned by consuming quantities of camphor to prevent cholera. Some of them carried it about in their pockets, and kept from time to time eating small quantities of it. Others took it dissolved in brandy. In all cases where it was taken in any quantities it produced insanity. It is a fact well known, that a comparatively small quantity of camphor will set a dog mad, and that he will soon afterwards die."

The cholera in Norwalk has been very fatal, taking off some of the most valuable members of society. We regret to hear of the death of Mrs. Farr, wife of the late editor of the Experiment. She was a most excellent woman and lost her life in her endeavors to assuage the sufferings of that dreaded scourge—having been unremitting, night and day, in her attentions to the sick and dying.

Quite a number of the citizens of Norwalk have sought refuge in our beautiful and healthy city. God grant that their retreat may be a safe one, and Sandusky may be spared from the dreadful disease.—[Sandusky Mirror.]

**The Greytown Affair.**

The following is extracted from a statement of Mr. Millar, who was on board the steamer at the time Capt. Smith shot the native Antonio, and for which the authorities of Greytown attempted to arrest Smith, and were resisted and beaten off by Borland, the United States minister, and which was the commencement of the late difficulties there. It presents a dark picture.

Of the deliberate murder of Antonio, the pilot, by Capt. Smith, there can be no doubt. Col. Fremont puts that point beyond dispute. So do Messrs. Wood and Millar of N. York. The latter was in the cabin of the steamer *Routh* when two colored boys entered, and took out three pistols, two of which they concealed in their breasts. "What is the excitement," he asked. "Capt. Smith, sir, is turning the boat back to shoot Antonio," they answered. "Why," said Mr. Millar, "They always quarrel when they meet; Antonio once worked for Capt. Smith; they quarrelled then," replied the boys.

Mr. Millar went on deck, and reports what he saw as follows:

The boat went on back up the river for about half an hour, when she turned round and ran right down, bows into the broadside of Antonio's bongo. I had gone out on the guard. There were two bungs lying together, Antonio's outside. It sounded as if the boat was smashing the bungs all to pieces. Antonio kept sitting on the stern of his boat—the *chopa*. He did not rise until the steamer struck his bongo, when he rose up, held up his left hand to Capt. Smith, and said—"Cuidado, captain, usted rompe me bongo"—"Take care, captain, you break my bongo." He was about to repeat the same expression, and had got out the word "cuidado," when a ball entered the nipple of the left breast. While standing in this position he had in his right hand a single-barrelled gun on half cock, the butt end of it resting on the *chopa* of the bongo, his right hand grasping the barrel about three or four inches from its mouth.

The instant the shot entered him he took two steps forward, and was in the act of taking the third when he tumbled head foremost into the other bongo next the bank.—The steamer then went on. As far as I saw in looking back, he remained in the same position with his feet up.

**CURIOUS MOUND.**—About half a mile east of Granville, in Licking county, in the midst of the ancient ruins with which that section abounds, and situated on the summit of a hill 150 feet high, is an artificial mound, shaped like an alligator. Its dimensions are as follows:

Whole length from nose to tip of the tail, 210 ft.; head and neck 32 feet; body 73 feet; tail 105 feet. From the extremities of the fore feet over the shoulders 100; hind feet, ditto, over the hips, 92 feet; over the head, 30 feet; between the legs at the body, 30 feet; ditto at the extremities, 78 feet; over over the leg 18 feet; height about 7 feet.

It is a work of antiquity, and may have been built as an object of worship by the idolaters of ancient times. These relics of an extinct race afford much for interesting speculation.

The unexampled drouth with which Ohio, in common with the Eastern and Middle States of the Union is now scourged, does not injure the agricultural interests alone; many hundreds of water power saw mills and grist mills have long since ceased to do any work, and in many instances, in the valleys of the two Miamis the steam saw mills have stopped, because, strange as it may seem, there is not water enough in the vicinity to fill the boilers!—[Cin. Com.]

The Rev. Jacob Gruber, well known as an eccentric, but very useful minister of the M. E. Church, desiring to correct an error in the elocution of one of his young brethren, much given to the melodious termination of each sentence with an emphatic "ah," wrote the following queer letter to him:

"Dear-ah Brother-ah: When-ah you-ah go-ah to-ah preach-ah, take-ah care-ah you-ah don't-ah say-ah ah-ah! Yours-ah."

JACOB-AH GRUBER-AH.